CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

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Statement from the Rio Group

The countries of the Permanent Mechanism for Consultation and Concerted Political Action (Rio Group) deplore the making of nuclear tests in any part of the world, particularly the tests carried out on 11 and 13 May in Rajasthan, India, and reiterate their concern at the negative effects of such tests on international peace, the environment and human health, which all nations are obliged to protect and preserve.

The countries of the Rio Group consider that the international community must take urgent steps to obtain the immediate opening of negotiations on nuclear disarmament with a view to establishing effective measures that will make possible the elimination of nuclear weapons within the foreseeable future and thereby the creation of a real and comprehensive nuclear non-proliferation regime that is universal, genuine and non-discriminatory.

The countries of the Rio Group therefore call upon the Government of India to give a definitive undertaking to the international community to cancel all types of nuclear test.